

Traffic and Parking Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 25, 2013

Rockport Police Station, Community Room

In attendance: Tom McCarthy, Joe Parisi, Linda Sanders

Guests: Kate Serpa, Irene Stielow, Bill and Claire Marotta, Donna Frontiero, David Dwinell, Paul Weiss, Mike Kaplan.

Meeting opened: 1:03 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes of the May 28, 2013 Meeting: Parisi moved to accept the minutes; McCarthy amended the Granite Street section to “The No Parking signs are on the easterly side of Granite Street”; the vote to accept the minutes of the May 28, 2013 meeting as amended was unanimous.

Granite Street – Traffic in the Halibut Point Area: Sanders reviewed a letter from Ms. Serpa requesting a speed radar sign be placed in the Halibut Point section of Granite Street. McCarthy reported that a speed survey has been completed in that area and the results are currently being compiled. Parisi reported that a “Dangerous Curve” sign is currently on order. Ms. Serpa, Ms. Stielow and Ms. Frontiero all elaborated on the dangerousness of this section of road; particularly to children and seniors. According to Ms. Serpa, the neighborhood has changed and now has more families with young children. McCarthy agreed to increase the police presence in this area. Sanders requested that this item be reviewed at the next meeting.

Beach Street: Parisi reported that the “Compact Car” signs have been ordered and will be installed. McCarthy clarified the definition of “Compact Car” to be a car which fits in the space. The lines are adjusted to delineate the space for compact cars.

Caleb’s Lane: McCarthy reported Mr. and Mrs. Marotta concern about personal and property safety on this road. Large delivery trucks have difficulty negotiating the turns on this narrow road. Sanders clarified the procedure for making changes on private roads. The Town does not have legal authority to make changes in the speed limit and traffic direction without the consensus of all of the residents.

Intersection of Beach and Main Streets: Mr. Kaplan is concerned about pedestrian safety in this area. There is a three cornered intersection without any “Stop” signs. The crosswalks are not well delineated. Parisi agreed to do a site visit and will review the crosswalks and sidewalks in this area. Curb cuts may be needed for handicap access to the crosswalks. This item will be discussed when the site visit has been completed.

Five Corners: The committee received a letter from Ms. Main requesting more “Stop” signs in the Five Corners intersection. This topic has been discussed by this committee in the past. The dashed lines marking traffic patterns are generally viewed as helpful. A speed study is in progress and the data will be compiled.

Bearskin Neck: The committee received a letter from Mr. Goodwin requesting a review of signage in the area. McCarthy and Parisi will do a site visit.

School Street and Gott Avenue: The committee received a letter from Ms. Ketchopulos regarding the neighborhood children’s safety in this area. Parisi moved to place a “Slow Children” sign here; McCarthy seconded and it was voted unanimously.

High Street: The committee received a letter from Ms. Goodwin expressing concern about safety of children and bikers in this area. A traffic study was recently completed in this area and McCarthy plans to do a site visit.

Jerdens Lane and Seagull Street: Sanders will update a resident about this committee’s previous interaction with the school department about safety in this area.

Evans Way: Parisi reported that the survey of this area is complete. His department will be delineating five parallel parking spots, including one handicap spot by the Smith’s Hardware building. He is considering paving options in this area and is concerned about drainage for the area.

Adjournment: McCarthy moved, Parisi seconded and it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 2:26 p.m.